

State and Local Fiscal Modernization Commission

Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure
January 22, 2007



Observations

- There are \$16 Billion in capital needs among our states public water, sewer and stormwater systems through 2030. Capital Need to 2010 is \$6.85 Billion.
- Federal, State and local governments have historically shared roles in the policy setting, development, financing, and regulation for systems. Clearer definition of these roles would be beneficial.
- North Carolina is not alone. States across the country are grappling with incredible capital needs and are also seeking to establish the right mix of roles to address that need most effectively.
- North Carolina is an incredibly diverse state. We have systems in areas where the incomes and population density support operations and expansion without public assistance. We also have systems in North Carolina that due to small customer bases and the underlying economic conditions, are unable to finance their needed improvements without public assistance.

It shall be the policy of this State to conserve and protect its lands and waters for the benefit of all its citizenry, and to this end it shall be a proper function of the State of North Carolina and its political subdivisions to acquire and preserve park, recreational, and scenic areas, to control and limit the pollution of our air and water, to control excessive noise, and in every other appropriate way to preserve as a part of the common heritage of this State its forests, wetlands, estuaries, beaches, historical sites, openlands, and places of beauty.

- **Article XIV, Section 5, North Carolina State Constitution**